

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

ON

FOR THE

Week ending the 24th May 1913.

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UBIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

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PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 1st January 1915.)

| No. | Name of Publication. | Where published. | Edition. | Name, caste and age of Editor. | Circulation. |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| BENGAL. | | | | | |
| 1 | "Bangaratna" | Krishnagar | Weekly | Kanal Lal Das, Hindu, Karmakar; age 28 years | 1,500 |
| 2 | "Bangavasi" | Calcutta | Do. | Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 56 years; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 45 years; Sanyendra Kumar Basu. | 15,000 |
| 3 | "Bankura Darpan" | Bankura | Do. | Rama Nath Mukherji, V.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 53 years; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years. | 453 |
| 4 | "Barisal Hitalshi" | Barisal | Do. | Durga Mohan Sen, Hindu, Baidya, age 35 years | 600 |
| 5 | "Banga Janani" | Rangpur (Bhotmari) | Do. | Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Hindu, Baidya, age 40 years | 0 |
| 6 | "Basumati" | Calcutta | Do. | Sashi Bhushan Mukherji; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years | 10,000 |
| 7 | "Bharat Chitra" | Calcutta | Do. | Pran Krishna Pyne | 800 |
| 8 | "Birbhum Hitalshi" | Bolepur (Birbhum) | Do. | Dibakar Banerji, Hindu, Brahmin; age 43 years | 323 |
| 9 | "Birbhum Varta" | Suri (Do.) | Do. | Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years | 800 |
| 10 | "Birbhum Vasi" | Rampurhat (Do.) | Do. | Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 45 years | 610 |
| 11 | "Biswadut" | Howrah | Do. | Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri; Hindu, Kayastha; age 37 years. | 1,000 |
| 12 | "Burdwan Sanjivani" | Burdwan | Do. | Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years | 1,000 |
| 13 | "Chhabbis Pargana Vartavaha." | Bhowanipore | Do. | Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 39 years | 800 to 700 |
| 14 | "Ocharumihir" | Mymensingh | Do. | Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 42 years | 800 |
| 15 | "Chinsura Varata-vaha." | Chinsura | Do. | Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 47 years | 1,000 |
| 16 | "Dainik Chandrika" | Calcutta | Daily, except on Thursday. | Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years and Kabetra Nath Sen. | 2,000 |
| 17 | "Dacca Gazette" | Dacca | Weekly | Satya Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years | 500 |
| 18 | "Dacca Prakash" | Do. | Do. | Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years | 750 |
| 19 | "Education Gazette" | Chinsura | Do. | Pandit Kunud Deb Mukharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years. | 1,500 |
| 20 | "Faridpur Hitalshini" | Faridpur | Fortnightly | Raj Mohan Masumdar, Hindu, Baidya, age about 76 years | 900 |
| 21 | "Gaud Dut" | Malda | Weekly | Krishna Chandra Agarwalla | 400 |
| 22 | "Hindu Ranjika" | Rajshahi | Do. | Kasinuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan Printer age 40 year | 390 |
| 23 | "Hindusthan" | Calcutta | Do. | Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years | 900 |
| 24 | "Hitavadi" | Do. | Do. | Manindra Nath Basu, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years | 25,000 |
| 25 | "Hitavarta" | Chittagong | Do. | Birendra Lal Das Gupta, Hindu, Baidya | 600 |
| 26 | "Islam Rabi" | Mymensingh | Do. | Maulvi Nasiruddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 33 years | 700 |
| 27 | "Jagaran" | Bagerhat | Do. | Amarendra Nath Majumdar, Hindu, Kayastha | About 300 |
| 28 | "Jasohar" | Jessore | Do. | Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri, Hindu, Kayastha | 600 |
| 29 | "Jyoti" | Chittagong | Do. | Kali Senkar Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years | 2,000 |
| 30 | "Kalyani" | Magura | Do. | Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years | 500 |

| No. | Name of Publication. | Where published. | Edition. | Name, caste and age of Editor. | Circulation |
|-----|---|------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | BENGALI—contd. | | | | |
| 31 | "Kasipore Nibasi" ... | Barisal ... | Weekly ... | Pratap Chandra Mukherji; Brahmin age 68 years ... | 500 |
| 32 | "Khulnavasi" ... | Khulna ... | Do. ... | Gopal Chandra Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin, age 53 years | 50 |
| 33 | "Malda Samachar" ... | Malda ... | Do. ... | Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years ... | 1,100 |
| 34 | "Manbhum" ... | Purulia ... | Do. ... | Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years ... | About 500 |
| 35 | "Midnapore Hitaisi" ... | Midnapore ... | Do. ... | Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years ... | 500 |
| 36 | "Medini Bendhab" ... | Ditto ... | Do. ... | Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 45 years ... | 600 |
| 37 | "Moslem Hitaisi" ... | Calcutta ... | Do. ... | Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque ... | 6,300 |
| 38 | "Muhammadi" ... | Ditto ... | Do. ... | Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan. | About 1,400 |
| 39 | "Murshidabad Hitaisi" ... | Saidabad ... | Do. ... | Banwari Lal Goswami Hindu, Brahmin; age 46 years ... | 206 |
| 40 | "Nayak" ... | Calcutta ... | Daily ... | Panchkari Banerjee and Birendra Chandra Ghosh ... | 2,800 |
| 41 | "Navavanga" ... | Chandpur ... | Weekly ... | Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years ... | 400 |
| 42 | "Noakhali Sammilani" ... | Noakhali ... | Do. ... | Rajendra Lal Ghosh, Kayastha, age 26 years ... | 290 |
| 43 | "Nihar" ... | Contai ... | Do. ... | Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 44 years ... | 500 |
| 44 | "Pallivarta" ... | Bongong ... | Do. ... | Charu Chandra Ray, Hindu, Kayastha; age 4 years ... | 500 |
| 45 | "Pallivasi" ... | Kalna ... | Do. ... | Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 48 years ... | 300 |
| 46 | "Pabna Hitaisi" ... | Pabna ... | Do. ... | Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 36 years. | 650 |
| 47 | "Praja Bandhu" ... | Tippera ... | Fortnightly ... | Babu Purna Chandra Chakravart. Kaivarta Brahmin, age 36 years. | 150 |
| 48 | "Prasun" ... | Katwa ... | Weekly ... | Banku Behari Ghose, Goals, age 43 years ... | 645 |
| 49 | "Pratihar" ... | Berhampur ... | Do. ... | Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 66 years ... | 503 |
| 50 | "Purulia Darpan" ... | Purulia ... | Do. ... | Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years ... | About 700 |
| 51 | "Ratnakar" ... | Asansol ... | Do. ... | ..... | 200 |
| 52 | "Rangpur Durpan" ... | Rangpur (Bhotmari) ... | Do. ... | Sarat Chandra Majumdar, Hindu Brahmin, age 46 years ... | 400 |
| 53 | "Rangpur Dikprakash" ... | Ditto ditto ... | Do. ... | Joytish Chandra Majumdar, Hindu, Brahmin, age about 35 years. | 300 |
| 54 | "Samay" ... | Calcutta ... | Do. ... | Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 59 years ... | 700 |
| 55 | "Sanjaya" ... | Faridpur ... | Do. ... | Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 4 years ... | 500 |
| 56 | "Sanjivani" ... | Calcutta ... | Do. ... | Sibnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter. | 6,000 |
| 57 | "Samsodhini" ... | Ohltagong ... | Do. ... | Kashi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years ... | 400 |
| 58 | "Suhrid" ... | Perojpur ... | Fortnightly ... | Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha ... | 150 |
| 59 | "Subarnabanik" ... | Calcutta ... | Weekly ... | Kiron Gopal Singha, Subarnabanik, age 20 years ... | 1,000 |
| 60 | "Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda-Basar Patrika" ... | Ditto ... | Do. ... | Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh. | 17,000 |
| 61 | "Siksha Samachar" ... | Dacca ... | Do. ... | Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ... | 1,500 |
| 62 | "Sura" ... | Pabna ... | Do. ... | Kisori Mohan Roy, Hindu, Kayastha, age 38 years ... | 300 |
| 63 | "Tripura Guide" ... | Comilla ... | Do. ... | Rajani Kanta Gupta, Hindu, Baidya age 46 years ... | 400 |

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|-----|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | BENGALI—consolid. | | | | |
| 64 | "Tripura Hitaishi" | Tippura | Weekly | Kamariya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 25 years | 459 |
| 65 | "Vartabaha" | anaghat | Do. | Girija Nath Mukherji, Hindu, Brahmin, age 42 years | 600 |
| 66 | "Viswavarta" ... | Dacca | Do. | Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Hindu, Baidya, age 36 year | 12,000 |
| | HINDI— | | | | |
| 67 | "Barabazar Gazette" | Calcutta | Do. | Sadananda Sukul | 600 |
| 68 | "Bharat Mitra" ... | Do. | Do. | Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years | 3,400 |
| 69 | "Birbharat" ... | Do. | Do. | Pandit Ramanand Dubay, Hindu, Brahmin, age 30 years | 500 |
| 70 | "Dainik Bharat Mitra" ... | Do. | Daily | Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years | 300 |
| 71 | "Hindi Bangavasi" | Do. | Weekly | Hari Kisson Joahar, Hindu, Kshatriya, age 37 years | 5,500 |
| 72 | "Marwari" ... | Do. | Do. | R. K. Tebrivala, Hindu, Vaisya, age 42 years | 500 |
| | URDU— | | | | |
| 73 | "Durbar Gazette" | Do. | Daily | Nawab Ali | 1,000 |
| 74 | "Al Hilal" ... | Do. | Weekly | Maulana Abul Kalam Azed, a muhammadan age 27 years | 1,000 |
| 75 | "Hablul Matin" ... | Do. | Dail | Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, age 61 year .. ... | ..... |
| | PERSIAN— | | | | |
| 76 | "Hablul Matin" ... | Do. | Weekly | Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, ge 61 ears ... .. | ..... |

*Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st
January 1913.*

| No. | Name of Publication. | Where published. | Edition. | Name, caste and age of Editor. | Circulation. |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | "Dainik Banik" ... | Calcutta ... | Daily ... | ..... | ..... |
| 2 | "Darsak" ... | Do. ... | Weekly ... | ..... | ..... |
| 3 | "Paricharak" ... | Do. ... | Bi-weekly ... | ..... | ..... |
| 4 | "Sammilani" ... | Do. ... | Weekly ... | ..... | ..... |

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

Referring to the outrage on some English Engineers in Mexico, the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May says that had a similar incident occurred in Persia or any other Asiatic country, a huge commotion would have been raised over it. But as the incident has occurred in an American State everybody is silent. Such is the irony of fate.

MOSLEM HITASHI,
May 16th, 1913.

2. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that one effect of the Balkan war will be that Germany will cease to be predominant in political influence in Asia Minor. England will be thus free from all anxieties about Egypt and India. The Bagdad Railway will be built, but no single Power will be able to use this Railway as a lever to support its own political power.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

3. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May calls on the Government of India to put an early stop to the system of indentured Indian labour for the Colonies and Foreign States. This is the only guarantee for the good treatment of Indian labourers abroad.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

4. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May complains that Indian coolies are extremely ill-treated by European planters at Perak, Selangor and other places in the Federated Malay States, and urges the Government of India to take steps to remedy this state of things.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

5. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May speaks highly of the straightforward manner in which Mr. Alfred Stead has taken the Liberal Ministry to task for not helping Turkey in her fight with the Balkan States. Mr. Stead has in this matter proved himself a worthy successor of his great father in the field of journalism.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
May 17th, 1913.

6. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th May refers to a letter sent by Dr. Abdul Ghani of Kabul and published in the *Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore, narrating how he has been thrown into prison wrongfully by the Amir's ears having been poisoned against him by his enemies, and appealing to Indian Moslems to demand justice for himself. The paper remarks that, if this be true, it is a great pity and all Indians should try and induce the Government of India to look into the matter and get Dr. Ghani released.

HABUL MATIN,
May 17th, 1913.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

7. In reference to the frequency of dacoities in Bengal, the *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 11th May writes that some good might ensue if each village were provided with a sentry of two armed policemen. The Military police already existing may be detailed for this duty. If that be not possible, let the Chaukidars in each village be replaced by at least two retired sepoyas. The existing Chaukidars are good for nothing, while they cost people a good deal of money.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 11th, 1913.

8. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 16th May refers to the reports of dacoities in different parts of Bengal which appear in the newspapers almost day after day, and remarks that the police are showing a most shameful incompetence in this matter. Why should these crimes occur here so often, when they do not occur so frequently elsewhere? Let steps be taken promptly to make the police fit to discharge their prime duty of protecting the life and property of the people.

BASUMATI,
May 16th, 1913.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 13th, 1913.

9. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 13th May writes that the investigation of criminal cases is now often delegated to village Panchayats, but it generally happens that only the Tashil panchayat holds the investigation and submits a report. This is hardly in keeping with the spirit of the panchayat system, and the paper suggests that such investigations should be held not by the Tashil panchayat alone but in collaboration with the four other panchayats.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 13th, 1913.

10. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 13th May raises the old complaint against the oppressive nature of the Chaukidari-tax and describes chaukidars as generally a class of thoroughly disreputable men. More often than not they pander to the evil ways of the Police Inspector and the Panchayat President, and cases are not rare of chaukidars trying their hand at dacoity.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

11. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May says that a reform is necessary in the Chaukidari system, not only in Eastern Bengal but throughout the Presidency of Bengal.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 13th, 1913.

12. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] complains of the lawlessness which he says now exists in the village of Mahiramkol in the Jamalpur Sub-Division. A number of *budmashes* have made themselves quite a terror and oppress and harass the people, especially the Hindus, in various ways; so much so that no one ventures to go out of his house after nightfall. A few days ago some of the rowdies assaulted a Brahmin lady, who happened to come out of her house at night, and broke her head.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

13. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that the recent Ullapara disturbances were not originally a dispute between Hindus and Musalmans as such. A general rise in prices compelled the *bargadars* to demand of the *jotdars* a larger share of the produce as their remuneration. The *jotdars* being influential Hindus summarily rejected this appeal from the poor Moslem *bargadars*. Accordingly, the *bargadars* declined to continue cultivating their lands. The *jotdars* now began to magnify the whole business and to make an outcry about Moslems boycotting Hindus and so forth, so as to draw the attention of the authorities. The Sub-Divisional Officer of Serajganj, accordingly, enquired into the matter and arranged a compromise to the effect that to remove the standing crops, the *bargadars* were to pay eight annas as cooly hire to the *jotdars* who were to remove them through their own men and that, for the future, there should be written agreements before *barga* leases were given or taken. During a subsequent enquiry by the Collector of Pabna, that officer expressed the opinion that the *bargadars* should be given 10 annas of the crops as their share. The *jotdars* did not agree to this, and the compromise outlined above held good, so far as the removal of the standing crops was concerned. In the meantime, the Hindu *jotdars*, commanding influence on the men because of their money, began to resort to their usual unfair means of tricking the *bargadars* into cultivating their lands on their own terms. They encouraged the porters, barbers, washerman, etc., to boycott Moslems. Moslems, in revenge, began to give up doing the menial offices they had been doing for local Hindus, and imported barbers and washermen of their own. The Hindus, finding themselves foiled and worsted, now sought the help of the courts and the police to gain their ends.

The Moslems did not consent to cultivate on the *barga* tenure at a loss, they were not terrified by the Hindu boycott, they have started a Madrasah and an Agricultural Bank to save their co-religionists from the clutches of Hindu usurers, and have refrained from performing menial offices for Hindus like those performed by *Domes* and *Dosadhs*.

In concluding, a reference may be made to the conduct of two of the local high officers. Is it true that Mr. Fawcus, Subdivisional officer of Serajganj, issued an order to the following effect:—

“Order to Mohiuddin Khan.

My order is that in future *bargadars* who wish to work for Hindus shall be molested in no way, and that the old *bargadari* custom with regard to the division and transport of the crops shall be maintained.

Is it true that he compelled an eminent Moslem named Mahiuddin Khan, to sign his assent to this order? Further was not Babu Bonamali Bagchi (now a Deputy Magistrate here) employed here in the past as Head Master of some local school? Is he related in any way to Dakhinarajan Babu, the leader of the Hindus, and to Babu Sachindra Kumar of the Salap Zemindar family who began this strife by insulting Mr. Mesher Ali Shaheb? Government should consider whether it is proper to have such a man posted at Serajganj during the present crisis.

14. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 18th April publishes a letter *anent* the lawlessness in Kagdi village (see paragraph 15 of the Report on Native Papers for the 17th

SANJAY,
April 18th, 1913.

Unrest in Kagdi (Faridpur). May 1913), which states that the senior Daroga of Nagarkandi thana lately visited Kagdi. But Gunamani Sarkar, one of the leading local villagers, declined to put him up at his house for the night lest thereby he should give offence to the Moslem ruffians. One of these ruffians Abdu by name actually had the temerity to bandy words with the Daroga. To the latter's query "Who are you?" he retorted "Who are you?" This shows the lengths to which the ruffians have carried their terrorism here. Even a police daroga is insulted and refused shelter for fear of the ruffians. One can, therefore, well imagine what a panic must be pervading the general population.

15. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May notices the fact that "Why people become disloyal." the District Superintendent of Police, Hooghly, arrested and confined in *hajut* a number of young lads who were going to immerse an idol in the Ganges to the accompaniment of music. This case explains why people become disloyal.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

16. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that there was a dacoity committed on the night of the 8th May last in the house of Gopeswar Chakravarty of Damukdia village in Bahirchar thana in Kushtea Subdivision. The matter was reported to the thana, but nobody came up promptly to inquire into the matter. The dacoits could have been caught, as they were crossing an extensive field immediately after the crime. And the the thana was only a mile away from Gopeswar's house.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

17. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May complains that tigers are now killing cattle and men in the village of Altapol and its neighbourhood in Jessore. The same paper also complains that tigers, wild boars etc. are committing serious depredations in the village of Jamsherpore in Nadia.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

18. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that the *pan* shops in Calcutta are the centres for the illicit retail sale of cocaine. The drug is sold in small pice packets, enclosed in scrips of thin blue paper, two inches long and an inch or so wide. This is known to the public, but strange to say the Excise officials have never been known to look for smuggled cocaine in *pan* shops.

HABUL MATIN,
May 17th, 1913.

19. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that, after the recent warm reception accorded to Rabindra Nath Tagore in England, it may be expected that the police will no longer scent any sedition in lines like these he has penned:—"The more you tighten your bonds, the more will our bonds snap." But will not the authorities reconsider their action in suppressing the historical works of Nikhil Nath Ray and others without hearing them in their defence?

BASUMATI,
May 17th, 1913.

(b) Working of the Courts.

20. The *Ananda Basar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 15th May remarks that the public are astounded and amazed at the curious process of reasoning through which Mr. Keays

ANANDA BASAR PATRIKA,
May 15th, 1913.

arrived at his recent judgment acquitting the European Bailiff of the Court of Small Causes charged with having kicked one Sanjivani Dasi, a *pardanashin* Hindu lady. Mr. Keays has written throughout as an advocate, steadily disbelieving even the police evidence which went in favour of the complainant.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

21. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May takes exception to the acquittal by the second Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, of a bailiff, named Meredith, of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, and a companion of his named Bomswetch, who had been charged with having kicked a woman named Sanjivani Dassi, while executing a warrant at her husband's house. The Magistrate's judgment in the case is full of strange arguments adduced to establish the innocence of the accused persons. This judgment, as well as the judgments in the Muttra shooting case and the Telinipara cooly murder case, indicate a novel development in the character of judicial administration in this country.

BIR BHARAT
May 18th, 1913.

22. The *Bir Bharat* [Calcutta] of the 18th May is astonished at the judgment which has been recently delivered by Mr. Keays, second Presidency Magistrate, in the case of Srimati Sanjivani Dassi vs. Mr. Meredith etc. It urges a retrial of the case.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

23. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May makes complaints about Mr. Dunlop, the District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas, similar to those noticed in paragraph 82 of the Report on Native Papers for the 17th May 1913, and remarks that faulty behaviour like this on the part of hot-headed Civilians brings the entire official class into popular disrepute. Government should take prompt steps to stop this arbitrary conduct on Mr. Dunlop's part.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

24. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May prays Lord Carmichael to order a fresh enquiry into the case in which a carter was recently killed on the Belvedere Road, Calcutta, in consequence of a collision of his cart with a *tandem* driven by a European named Martin. Mr. M. L. Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate, Alipore, on enquiry found that Mr. Martin was not responsible for the sad occurrence. Mr. Martin has nevertheless paid Rs. 200 to be sent to the old mother of the deceased. The writer doubts whether Mr. Chatterjee's decision, and even Mr. Martin's charity, has satisfied the public.

(d)—Education.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
May 13th 1913.

25. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 12th May deplores the backwardness of education in the United Provinces, and welcomes the recent departure which has been inaugurated by the Government in the educational policy in that province.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 13th, 1913.

26. Discussing the question of transferring the Sibpur Engineering College to Dacca, the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 12th May writes in English:—

If a central Technical Institute be established at Calcutta, the so-called evil effect of the transfer of the Sibpur Engineering College to Dacca may be considerably counteracted.

The fear of the Calcutta papers, therefore, seems to us to be entirely groundless. The importance of the Calcutta University and that of the city of Calcutta itself will not be a whit diminished because of the transfer of a college which may be replaced by another institution not very dissimilar.

SAMAY,
May 16th, 1913.

27. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 16th May says that the establishment of a new University at Bankipore, which, like the projected one at Dacca, is likely to injure the interests of the Calcutta University, will not give satisfaction to anybody in Bengal.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 20th, 1913.

28. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th May suggests that educationists like Sahityacharya Ramavatar Sarma, Dr. Ganganath Jha and Sir Gurudas Banerjee should be included in the Patna University Committee.

29. The following is taken from an article written in English, which appears in the *Tipperah Guide* [Comilla] of the 13th May :—

Syllabus in Bengal schools:

Some of the Calcutta papers complain that the course of studies of lower classes in Western Bengal is highly complex and taxes the brains of the young boys; it recommends that this most irrational curriculum should be changed. The position of the younger boys in Eastern Bengal also is not better, though it is to be admitted that a syllabus, comparatively easier than that in West Bengal, was introduced by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The system has worked in Eastern Bengal for the last few years but has been found wanting: and it seems the syllabus has caused here also a deep aversion to study at an infant stage. In the first place the number of subjects taught is unnecessarily large, secondly there is not a sufficient number of trained teachers to teach under the new system, and lastly the selection of text-books is faulty.

The syllabus in the Matriculation standard is comparatively much easier than before, but that for the lower classes is unnecessarily stiff and complex. The courses that obtain in advanced Western countries have been introduced without efficient teachers who can make the subject interesting and pleasant study to the infants. As an inevitable result we find the boys have no other alternative but to get everything by heart, to the utter detriment of their health and energy. Now that both Western and Eastern Bengal have come under the same administration, we should like that a common course of studies suitable to the boys should be introduced for both sections of the province. There is no room to think that boys of one part are in any way inferior in capacity to those of the other, and a common curriculum for the entire province should be introduced. We beg to draw the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to this matter.

30. Referring to the recent Government of India letter to Local Governments on the question of Moslem education, the *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes:—

Government and Moslem education

Government deserves our most cordial thanks for these recommendations and suggestions. They are matters on which the Moslem community have been agitating for a long while. We have two remarks to make on the present occasion regarding primary education. Let not Government imagine that, because compared with other communities, the Moslems are making fair progress in the matter of primary education, the Moslems have got all that they may legitimately demand in the shape of State help in primary education for their community. The fact is Moslem *pathshalas* and *maktabs* do not get an adequate share of assistance from Local Boards and Municipalities because of the absence of Moslems as members on those bodies in sufficient numbers. Then again, the Inspecting officers are mostly Hindus, and such Moslems as there are, take their cue from their Hindu superiors, and for this reason the Government grants-in-aid towards Moslem schools are usually stinted. The remedy for this state of things is the creation of a separate staff of Moslem officers, who shall be entirely independent of the Education Department, to inquire into complaints of all grades of Moslem schools and colleges, and to prepare a report on Moslem education every year. The essence of this scheme is that these Moslem officers shall not be subordinate to the officers of the Education Department.

Coming now to the question of secondary education, it must be remarked at the outset that the amount of pecuniary assistance accorded to Moslem institutions for secondary education by the State is not at all proportionate to the poverty of the Moslems and the requirements of their community. And until this financial help is accorded, no amount of Resolutions and the like will be productive of real good. In concluding, we repeat that the recommendations and suggestions now made are very good ones, but what will be the good if, like previous Resolutions, they are never translated into realities?

31. The London correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May thoroughly approves of Mr. Hornell's appointment as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

Mr. Hornell.

Mr. Hornell has an intimate knowledge of the working of primary schools in England, and this fact as well as that of his well-known sympathies for

TIPPERAH GUIDE,
May 13th, 1913.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

Bengalis, makes the writer confident of Mr Hornell's appointment being a very happy one for Bengal.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

32. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May protests against the intention with which rumour credits Government appointing a European to the post of special Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, for Moslem education. If no qualified Moslem was available inside the department, an outsider like Dr. Suhrawardy or Mr. Salah-ud-din might have been selected. In any event, if a Moslem is not to be appointed to this office at all, cannot a Moslem be found fit for the post of Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction?

NAYAK,
May 13th, 1913.

The Sanskrit Title Examination : a complaint.

33. A correspondent of the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 13th May writes that Panchanan Tarkaratna's son-in-law is one of the twelve candidates who have passed the (B) Nyaya Title examination this year. None of these twelve should, however, have passed the examination. This son-in-law, Ram Chandra and Batu, in fact have been unduly favoured by Mahamahopadhyaya Pramathanath Tarkabhusan, in the same way that Rajendra came off first in Smriti. Have any of Mahamahopadhyaya Sharbabhauma's students ever passed out with credit equal to these students, Rajendra or Ram Chandra, or this son-in-law? And yet Sharbabhauma's students are now the foremost in the country. Pandit Pramathanath Tarkabhusan having done what he had to do, is now living in a hotel on the cool heights of Darjeeling.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

Mymensingh students and the police.

34. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May takes exception to the alleged fact of the Superintendent of Police of Mymensingh having recently asked the Headmasters of all the local schools to allow an Inspector of the Criminal Investigation Department to examine the handwritings of all the students of the first four classes. Such things will, says the paper, lower the teachers in the public esteem, and should not have been allowed to take place without the permission of the higher authorities of the Education Department.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

35. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May writes that, some time ago, Miss Garrett, Inspectress of Schools, Dacca, ordered the Pandit of a Girls' School in Armanitola at Dacca to abolish the school. This the Pandit refused to do, and so on the 2nd May Miss Garrett called at the school and took away with her a sewing machine and some other things belonging to the Institution. She has also ordered all the furniture to be removed from the school. The paper draws the attention of Mr. Hornell to these alleged facts and considers it a pity that, far from encouraging the multiplication of girls' schools, attempts should be made to abolish one such institution.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

36. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May narrates how Principal James lately opposed the application of a Moslem student who studies both in the University M. A., and the University Law classes, for remission of his fees for the M. A. class, in consideration of his poverty. It is really a surprising example of his sympathy with Indian students.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

SANJIVANI,
May 16th, 1913.

37. Referring to the recent election of members for the District Board of Mymensingh, in which Musalmans have obtained 11 seats and Hindus only 1, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May says that after this, Musalmans ought not to clamour for separate representation.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

38. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that at the last general Municipal election for Calcutta, amongst the 25 elected Ward Commissioners only one Musalman could get in, and that because he had no Hindu competitor. Year by year the number of elected Municipal Commissioners is dwindling instead of increasing. Government has indeed nominated four Moslems to be Commissioners, but two of them are Princes

and one is a Nawab. In Ward No. XX the Moslems outnumber all the other communities, nevertheless the Hindu landlords compelled the voters to vote for the Hindu candidate who was returned. Does not all this justify the Moslem claim for special representation on the Municipal Corporation?

39. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 18th April regrets that among the the Hindus nominated this year by the Government as members of the Mymensingh District Board, there are none who represent educated

The constitution of the Mymensingh District Board.

middle class Hindus, every one of them being either a Zamindar or a Zamindar's manager. In the elections only one Hindu has been successful. Consequently, educated middle class Hindus will not at all be represented on the present Board. As for the Zamindars, they are, in the present state of the country, nothing but ornamental figureheads. The attention of Lord Carmichael is drawn to the matter.

ISLAM RAVI,
April 18th, 1913.

40. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 30th April strongly objects to the nomination of a few Government servants as members of the Magura Local Board as a departure from the practice followed so long, and an infringement

Local Self-Government in Magura.

ment of the rights of Local Self-Government. The Magura Union also has been constituted mostly of Government servants.

KALYANI,
April 30th, 1913.

41. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 2nd May objects to the proposal to further enhance the Municipal rates at Tangail after their enhancement only a year ago, in order to find money for drainage works in the town.

The cost of drainage works at Tangail.

Government has agreed to bear one-half of the cost of the works if the municipality can find the other half. The writer prays Government to increase its contribution to two-thirds of the cost, for an enhancement of the already enhanced Municipal rates will fall very heavily on the rate-payers and cause great dissatisfaction among them.

ISLAM RAVI,
May 2nd, 1913.

42. Referring to the small number of Indians who have been enrolled in the Indian Medical Service since 1855, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May says that but for the fact of the Indian Medical Service examination being held in England, quite a large number of Indians would have been able to enter that service. The paper considers the practice of holding examinations in England for appointments in India as quite an unnatural order of things.

Indians in the Indian Medical Service.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

43. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th May says:—

A mode of checking a cholera epidemic.

In the Bharatpur State Major Watson, Agency Surgeon, bought up all the sweet-meats in stock in shops and destroyed them, and asked the shopkeepers not to make sweet-meats for one week in order to check cholera. In a town like Calcutta it is not possible to buy up and destroy the entire stock of sweet-meats at any time, but orders can surely be issued for sweet-meat vendors to close their shops for some days at a time of cholera epidemic.

HABUL MATIN,
May 15th, 1913.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

44. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May complains that in this hot season there are many railway stations in Bengal where passengers cannot get drinking

A Railway complaint.

water because of the absence or the negligence of *paniwallas* or *panipannres*. A correspondent says how, on the 26th April last, in the course of a long halt of an hour and a half at Gauhati railway station en route for Lumding, he could not procure even a small supply of pure drinking-water for love or money. The station staff when appealed to, seemed to be utterly callous to the grievous sufferings entailed on the passengers by their failure to provide water for them to drink. If things are so in a big place like Gauhati, how much worse they must be in smaller stations in the interior.

MOHAMMADI,
May 16th, 1913.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 18th 1913.

45. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 18th May, in referring to a representation recently submitted by Mr. Mohan Singh Budh, member of the Taran-Taran Municipality, to the Agent, North-Western railway, for removal of the difficulties of the pilgrims travelling in large numbers to Taran-Taran-nagar (a place of pilgrimage near Amritsar, Punjab), remarks that the railway companies in India are altogether indifferent to the needs and comforts of the third-class passengers from whom they derive such a large income. Nothing is done to promote the conveniences of female passengers. Whenever there is a great influx of passengers (in the shape of pilgrims, etc.) they are packed in goods wagons. It was hoped that the establishment of the Railway Board would remove many such grievances, but to the utter disappointment of the public matters are quite as bad as they were before.

HITAVADI,
May 16th 1913.

46. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May points out how the original estimate for building the Sara bridge has since been replaced by another almost double in amount, and remarks that none can tell that this second estimate also will not soon require to be replaced by a higher third one, considering the extravagant and luxurious way in which Mr. R. R. Gales has been managing things. He imported Punjabi engineers and overseers and contractors wholesale, at the outset, utterly ignoring Bengalis, and these men, lacking all local knowledge, came to grief at every step, thus running up the cost of construction. The wages paid for earth-cutting were needlessly high, and much money was lost in litigation with the stone-quarry proprietors. Then again, Mr. Gales has built magnificent quarters for himself at Paksi, which are fitted with electric lights and fans and has splendid gardens; its staircase is built of teak wood and it has a fine ball-room top. It is extravagance like this which is running up the cost of building the bridge.

RANGPUR DARPAN,
May 12th 1913.

47. The *Rangpur Darpan* [Rangpur] of the 12th May narrates how, on the 5th May last, the daughter of a respectable citizen of Rangpur while travelling up from Calcutta by the Darjeeling Mail, found immediately after the train drew up at Panchabati station that her box of ornaments worth Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,300 had been stolen. The female compartment was very dimly lighted at the time and though the alarm cord was immediately pulled and an alarm raised, the train did not stop. And it was only at Parbatipur that the police could be informed and the necessary steps taken. The Railway Board should enquire why the train was not drawn up promptly when the alarm cord was pulled, and why the lights were dim in the female carriage at that time?

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

48. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May complains that Piyali station on the Southern section of the Eastern Bengal State railway is still without a platform and waiting accommodation for males and females. There is no water-supply available, either, near by.

KHULNAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

49. The *Khulnavasi* (Khulna) of the 17th May has the following complaints against the management of the trains which run from Sealdah to Khulna and *vice versa*, at night:—

(1) The Inter-class accommodation in the trains, namely one carriage for males and one-half of a carriage for females, is very inadequate. Most passengers to and from Madaripur and Barisal travel in these trains. Consequently, the demand for Inter-class accommodation in them is very great.

(2) There is no arrangement to supply drinking water to passengers in the train from Khulna to Sealdah. In fact, a passenger may cry at the top of his voice for the *panipande*, but no one responds to his call.

(3) If a light goes out, the station babu makes no effort to rekindle it.

(4) Not all the third class carriages in the trains are provided with latrines, and the latrines that exist are not supplied with water.

(5) The coolies at stations realize, by sheer *sulum* unreasonably high fees from passengers.

50. The *Prajabandhu* [Brahmanberia] of the 5th May says that the gangway at the Bhuganj Steamer station within the Brahmanberia Subdivision, should be wider than it is now and care should be taken to see that, at the time of landing, it does not become separated from the flat to which it leads. Arrangements should also be made to light the gangway at night.

PRAJABANDHU,
May 5th, 1913.

51. The *Murshidabad Hitavadi* [Murshidabad] of the 14th May says that drinking of muddy, foul, unwholesome water is one of the potent causes of the ill-health of villages in Bengal, and in this connection urges on Government the necessity of dredging the Bhagirathi so as to make its water wholesome.

MURSHIDABAD,
HITAVADI,
May 14th, 1913

52. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May hopes that His Excellency the Governor will accede to the prayer of certain inhabitants of the Kaliganj thana in Nadia to direct Messrs. Hoare Miller and Company to dam up the mouth of the Harudanga Khal. This company, some time ago, widened and deepened this mouth so as to let in more water into this khal and make it navigable. The khal has become navigable, indeed, but in consequence the waters of the Bhagirathi below the offtake of the khal have dried up, producing acute scarcity of drinking water in the villages adjoining, such as Sherpur, etc., the inhabitants of which have accordingly memorialized His Excellency to take the necessary steps for their relief.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

53. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that, because of the Khanpur Bund, part of the Eden Canal has dried up this year. Government is considering the question of re-excavating the canal. But in the meantime, the local people are suffering acute hardship and, for saving their lives, the Khanpur Bund should be forthwith removed.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

54. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May urges on the Government the necessity of re-excavating, without delay, the Eden Canal in the Hooghly district, which is the main source of water-supply to nearly fifty villages.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

55. The *Paricharak* [Calcutta] of the 17th May supports the appeal lately made by certain people of Kalighat that Government should, out of deference to Hindu susceptibilities, cease to call the Tolly's Nullah by that name and give it the name of Adi Ganga.

PARICHARAK,
May 17th, 1913.

56. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May agrees with the Kalighat People's Association in its protest against the naming of the Adi Ganga as Tolly's Nullah and the contamination of its water with filthy drainage.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

57. A correspondent of the *Jagaran* [Bagerhat] of the 18th May says that the use of fixed nets for catching fish in vogue within the Bagerhat Subdivision from the month of *Chaitra* to *Asvin* is a source of great danger to life. Lower animals are not infrequently drawn by strong currents into them and killed, and sometimes men and boats also are drawn into them. The attention of the Government is drawn to the matter.

JAGARAN,
May 18th, 1913.

58. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May thanks Government for the rebuilding of a part of the Doro Government bund in Midnapore, but suggests that, as proposed to be rebuilt, this work will lead to some 30 bighas of land being made unfit for cultivation, which means loss of property valued at Rs. 8,000. It would be enough if the bund be built at a distance of some 200 feet from the river bank, instead of about 1,000 feet, as proposed.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

(A)—General.

59. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 30th April says that it is the despotic system of British rule in India which has made an unholy union of Judicial and Executive functions possible in this country, a union which is the

KALYANI,
April 30th, 1913.

springhead of frequent incidents of serious miscarriage of justice, and from which results the conviction of ninety-nine per cent of people sent up by the police for trial. The feeling against it in the country is universal and not confined to Calcutta. The desired separation of functions should not be delayed by Government on the pretext of want of funds, for as yet Government has never postponed carrying out any of its whims, including the Partition of Bengal and the transfer of the Capital, for want of funds. If Government can find money for these, it should also find money for the separation of the Judicial and Executive functions which will not, in the opinion of experts, be very costly.

ISLAM RAB, May 9th, 1912.

60. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 9th May declares itself wholeheartedly in favour of a separation of the Judicial and Executive functions.

RANGPUR DIKPRAKASH, May 11th, 1912.

61. In an article written in English headed "The system of dual functions" the *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina] of the 11th May quotes the remarks made by the *English-*

Ibid.

man on the subject: "If the Government were convinced that the present system was an evil one, it would not hesitate to apply the remedy however heroic; and all that the *Congress* has to do is to prove that the Home administrative methods are applicable to India, and that the Indian methods do not make either for efficiency or justice" and proceeds to observe as follows:—Now this has been proved to the hilt, time and again; and we have the authority of such eminent Englishmen, who have served India all their lives, as Sir Harvey Adamson, late Home member of the Imperial Executive Council; the late Sir Frederick Halliday, Sir John Peter Grant, Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Cecil Beadon, Sir Barnes Peacock, Lord Kimberley, Lord Cross, all of whom have condemned the present system. In 1899, a memorial was presented to the Secretary of State for India, signed by such distinguished men as Lord Hobhouse, Sir Richard Couch, Sir Richard Garth, Sir John Phear, Sir William Markby and others equally distinguished, urging the separation of the two functions. Will it be contended that the eminent statesmen whom we have named, did not have in view the best interests of the Indian administration when they urged upon the Home Government the separation of Executive and Judicial functions? Hardly! It is merely a fetish. The Britisher is peculiarly given to fetishes. Mark the fetish of Free Trade, and the puerile objections raised against giving India Imperial preference.

When the educated Indians were clamouring for the right of interpellation in our Councils, the authorities and several Anglo-Indian journals were up in arms against the grant of the right; for it was contended that it would lead to all sorts of grave abuses and paralyse the work of the administration. How is that right regarded now? Is it a valued blessing or curse? And do not Europeans avail themselves of the right as well as Indians? And so it will be found with the separation of Judicial and Executive functions, once it has been given a fair and unprejudiced trial in advanced districts. There was the usual outcry and grave and solemn shakings of wise heads against the expansion of Indian Councils, and the admission of Indians into the Executive Councils. Have these two innovations wrecked the British administration of India or impaired its British tone! All we ask for is that the experiment of separating the two functions be given a fair trial. If it prove a failure, no great harm will have been done, and we shall have been proved to be false prophets. But to condemn the claim without a trial is, to say the least, illogical and no amount of official arguments, makeshifts or State diplomacy can convince the people of the fairness, or even of the expediency, of any longer withholding a reform which is not only demanded by the entire educated people in every province in India, and a host of veteran and most eminent British administrators who spent all their lives in the Indian Empire, but was recognized and virtually promised by the Government of India itself only a few years ago. We think it is anything but sound policy to withhold a measure of reform which is manifestly irresistible, until popular agitation reaches its highest pitch and assumes a disquieting magnitude. A concession under pressure loses much of its beneficial political effects.

62. The *Faridpur Hitaishini* [Faridpur] of the 6th May objects to the inclusion of the tract of country from Gohala to Tengrakhola under the Musksudpur thana within the new Gopalganj Subdivision of the Faridpur District. The inclusion of this tract within the new Subdivision will cause great inconvenience and trouble to its inhabitants, and make the Munsifi at Bhanga, for which *pukka* buildings have been constructed at a great cost, useless. The authorities are, therefore, requested not to give an inconvenient boundary to the new Subdivision simply because it happens to include a few *khals* and *nullahs*.

FARIDPUR
HITAISHINI,
May 6th, 1913.

The new Gopalganj Subdivision
of the Faridpur District.

63. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 11th April cannot appreciate the concession made by Government to its Moslem employes that they may be allowed leave to say their *jumma* prayers on Friday noon, but they must put in extra work for the time so taken up on some other day of the week, if necessary. This is an arrangement which will lead to oppression on pious Moslems.

ISLAM RAVI,
April 11th, 1913.

Moslem servants of Govern-
ment and *jumma* prayers.

64. The *Bharat Chitra* [Calcutta] of the 11th May is extremely gratified at the news that the work of furnishing the Imperial Council hall at Simla has been entrusted to an Indian Firm, namely, Messrs. Dedji Cowasji and Company. This affair unmistakably proves Lord Hardinge's love for India.

BARAT CHITRA,
May 11th, 1913.

Furnishing of the Simla
Imperial Council hall.

65. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 12th May has communicated an article in English, from which the following is taken:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 12th, 1913.

The autumn sessions of the
Bengal Legislative Council.

The points then that have to be reckoned with are mainly and briefly these:—first the Government has given its pledge, which it has got to redeem and which it cannot go back upon, to make Dacca the second Capital. Secondly, since the months of July and August are the most convenient time for His Excellency the Governor for a long stay in this city, it is only in the fitness of things that Dacca should have a Session of the Legislative Council at that time. Thirdly, public opinion has strongly declared itself in favour of Dacca. Fourthly, a Dacca Session would be more conducive to efficient administration. So we see that, look at the question from whatever standpoint we may, the conclusion is irresistible that the Dacca Session is a necessity. If, however, in spite of these considerations of paramount importance, the Government should see its way by some irony of fate to overlook the claim of Dacca, we are sure the action will create a sense of profound disappointment in East Bengal, the people will regard it as a great slight put upon the public opinion of the Eastern Districts of the Presidency. So we earnestly hope and pray that our benign Government, with such a wise statesman as Lord Carmichael at its head, will not give effect to the proposal of a hill session in the face of the strong objections that have been urged against it.

66. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 15th May is of opinion that the autumn session of the Bengal Legislative Council should be held at Dacca, for if the members of the Council remain at the place for a month or two every year a new life would be infused into that place. The paper goes yet a step further, and suggests that the Council should hold its sittings at Chittagong, Rajshahi and other places as well.

SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1913.

Ibid.

67. Discussing the question of amalgamating the outlying Bengali-speaking districts with the Bengal Presidency, the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 12th May writes in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 12th, 1913.

The union of the Bengali-speak-
ing population under one Govern-
ment.

The feeling of discontent in the fringe areas has not subsided. On the contrary, it is as intense as it was just after the Delhi announcement.

68. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 14th May writes:—

BARISAL HITAISHI,
May 14th 1913.

The question of protection for
India.

In referring to the debate lately initiated in the Imperial Legislative Council by Sir G. M. Chitnavis on the question of protection for Indian industries, the Hon'ble E. S. Montagu declared the other day that the opinions expressed in Council voiced the views

of the educated few and that the interests of the "voteless and voiceless" masses of India demanded the continuance of free trade. Perhaps the Under-Secretary, during his recent visit, found that these masses ate British-made biscuits and wore British-made shoes. He seems to overlook the fact that these voteless and voiceless masses eat the produce of their own lands, and wear cloths manufactured by the *jolahs* and *tantis*, etc., in their neighbourhood. In fact, for nine months of the year, these masses do not depend for their subsistence on foreign lands, so they have nothing to lose from protective duties, and they cannot understand the consideration for their interests which prompts Government to stick to free trade.

In spite of all that Mr. Montagu may say, the fact remains that all Indians are agreed that protection will benefit India. But Government refuses to see this and 90 per cent. of the English people also are similarly blind. For instance, this is what the *Morning Post*, one of the best English journals, says in this connection:—

"We took India by the sword;" says the journal referred to: "We govern by strength; chiefly because a peaceful and prosperous India is of great importance to British trade. It is hardly in reason—certainly it is not in accordance with the motives upon which human nature bases itself—that we should allow India to adopt a trade policy that is injurious to British interests."

This is moral courage and outspokenness for which we ought to be thankful. Such plain-speaking is much to be preferred to political cunning. The fact is undeniable that the English came here for strictly business and commercial purposes. They cannot, therefore, be expected to make laws which go against their own interests. It is folly or madness to blame our rulers for this attitude. But one feels sorry when a man like Mr. Montagu says that men like Sir G. M. Chitnavis are a mere handful—one feels he is not so honest as the *Morning Post*. Mr. Chamberlain wants to introduce protection into England but he is not prepared to do the same for India, because thereby England's interests would be injured. The Bombay Mills are so heavily taxed because else the interests of Manchester would suffer. Certainly, in deference to the interests of the voiceless and voteless masses, our kind Under-Secretary cannot abolish that tax. He is helpless in the matter and we do not blame him therefor.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

69. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that imports of manufactured goods into India are increasing every year. This shows that new industries cannot

develop in India without a protective tariff. But Government will never seriously consider the propriety of imposing such a tariff, until cheap French and German goods drive British manufactures out of the country.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
May 16th, 1913.

70. Referring to the oath taken by certain Sindh Musalmans not to supply rations and fodder to officials on tour, the *Moslem Hitaiishi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May says that the *chaprasis* of officials on tour commit great oppression on even poor people for supplying them with articles of food, and the visits of officials to mufassal places serve the headmen of those places as occasions for the realization of a heavy tax from their poor residents.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

71. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May prays to Lord Hardinge to order a fresh enquiry, by an expert, into the rites practised in the Jagatsi and Arunachal *Asrams* so that the Chief Commissioner of Assam may have an opportunity to know the truth in connection with them, and to withdraw the strictures passed by him to the effect that they were tainted with obscenity.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

Ibid.

72. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May expresses the same hope.

BASUMATI,
May 16th, 1913.

73. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 16th May refers to a case noticed in the *Lahore Tribune*. It appears that one Chaitoo, a coolie woman accused of receiving stolen property in the Kamarsen State near Simla, was convicted of the charge, but later was found dead lying on the hillside. The woman's son presented a petition to Sir Louis Dane, denying the police theory of suicide and alleging

that she was maltreated. Certain reasons are given in support of this belief. The Lieutenant-Governor simply dismisses this petition stating that no grounds exist for believing that the woman was maltreated. It would have been well if Government had stated reasons refuting the son's statements. That would be more satisfactory to the public.

74. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May draws the attention of Government to the conduct of Mr. Waddel, District Magistrate of Khalna, who, when the local District Board carried, against his views, the proposal to remove elsewhere the charitable dispensary at Debhatta, remarked that this was "very discreditable to the Board."

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

75. Discussing Sir William Meyer's appointment, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that it would have been well if a Civilian had not been appointed Finance Member. Eminent Civilians like Sir J. Strachey and Sir E. Baker have been failures in this post, while outsiders like Sir E. Law and Sir G. Wilson have been remarkable successes. What can explain this partiality for a Civilian on the part of Lord Hardinge?

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

76. Discussing Sir William Meyer's appointment as Finance Member, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that Sir William may have some experience as a financier, but his life-long services as a Civilian must necessarily have made him imbibe a Civilian's prejudices. The spirit which Sir R. Craddock and Sir H. Butler have displayed while in office, makes the public apprehensive of the results which will ensue if Sir William Meyer joins hands with them. They therefore urge that the Civilian element should not be allowed to predominate in the various Executive Councils or in the Council of India. As Sir Pherozeshah Mehta said in the Supreme Legislative Council:—

BASUMATI,
May 17th, 1913.

"It is always safer to rest on the ultimate sense of justice of the whole British people, which in the end always asserts its nobility, than on the uncontrolled tendencies of an officialdom trained in bureaucratic tendencies and not free from the demoralizing prejudices incident to their position in this country."

And these views are shared by many people in this country.

77. The *Bir Bharat* [Calcutta] of the 18th May is dissatisfied with the present constitution of the Imperial Legislative Council on account of the large preponderance of the Civilian element, to which it attributes narrowness and selfishness. It urges the reduction in the number of Civilians in the Council.

BIR BHARAT,
May 18th, 1913.

78. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May writes that try as Lord Hardinge may, his new Delhi will never be a big and prosperous city like Calcutta. Practically Simla will be the real Capital and Delhi will be the Capital only in name. It will, therefore, not be prudent, to make any heavy outlay on the new Capital.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

79. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 19th May writes:—

NAYAK,
May 19th, 1913.

Ibid. It remains to be seen when, if ever, big buildings will be built at Delhi. But in the meantime, wide roads are to be constructed wiping off the old Moghul town; many places awakening pleasant recollections of the great past of Indian Moslems will now be for ever wiped off.

80. Discussing the question of agricultural improvement in Bengal, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 17th May cannot understand why all the various model farms in Bengal should be run at a loss. This is likely to discourage people from adopting improved methods of agriculture. What will be the inducement held out to them when they find scientific agriculture being carried on at a loss by Government? Of course an experimental farm may not show a large profit, but it should not be run at a heavy loss either.

BASUMATI,
May 17th, 1913.

The breeds of cattle in the Presidency are dying out or deteriorating and steps must be taken to arrest their decay and pasture grounds must be provided in each village. Centers should be opened in each District for the sale of seeds and agricultural implements. And cultivators must be given practical demonstration of the methods of using improved seeds and manure.

It is a pity that none of the various model farms care to cultivate fruits like the mango, the jack-fruit etc. Before cultivation can be improved, it is necessary that the cultivator himself should exist and exist in sound health. And that means that adequate drainage and water-supply should be provided in all the villages of Bengal to save the indigenous cultivator from the extinction with which he is now threatened because of Malaria and other diseases.

III.—LEGISLATION.

NIHAR,
May 13th, 1913.

81. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 13th May complains that gambling is exceedingly rife in Contai and its neighbourhood and calls for the extension of the Bengal

Gambling Act to those places.

*DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA*,
May 17th, 1913.

82. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 17th May remarks, that those who supported the passing of the Indian

The Conspiracy Act.

Conspiracy Act in the Imperial Legislative Council at Delhi did not do so in accordance with the wishes of the public, is proved by the recent speech delivered by the President of the Pradeshik Parishad Madras, which recently held its sittings at Trichinopoly.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

ISLAM RAVI,
April 25th, 1913.

83. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 25th April writes that prices are ruling very high in Tangail now, higher than they have been for the 10 years past. Common rice

Prices in Tangail.

sells at 8 or 9 *kanchi seers* per rupee. Vegetables are not available for sale. All classes of the population are feeling the general rise in prices.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

ISLAM RAVI,
April 11th, 1913.

84. A correspondent of the *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 11th April writes that after the fall of Janina, Adrianople and the

The fate of Islam.

Chataldja lines, it will not be long before Constantinople, too, passes away from the hands of Islam; and then Mecca, Medina and other scared places will come to be infested with wild beasts, and mosques will be converted into theatres and stables, so that the very name of Islam will cease to exist on earth.

ISLAM RAVI,
April 12th, 1913.

85. Reviewing the last Bengali year, the *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 18th April writes as follows:—

A review of the past Bengali year.

The rejection of the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's Education Bill has done a great harm to the cause of Mussalman education. As regards the Dacca University, it is still an enigma to us. In fact, it will not be able to make good the loss caused by the rejection of Mr. Gokhale's Bill.

The growing unity and good feeling between Hindus and Mussalmans is a very happy sign. We cannot praise the intelligence of those who assign too much importance to occasional outbursts of ill-feeling between members of the two communities.

In Lord Carmichael and Lord Hardinge we have got rulers of uncommon mettle, forbearance, generosity, liberality and nobility of mind. The heroism with which Lord Hardinge bore the attempt on his life at Delhi will be written in letters of gold in the history of India.

ISLAM RAVI,
May 2nd, 1913.

86. The *Islam Ravi* [Tangail] of the 2nd May says that everywhere

The Emperor's birth day.

in India people will joyously celebrate their Emperor's birthday. What, however, gives them pain and trouble on such an occasion is the exaction of subscriptions by officials in the mufassal and the spending of the money thus realized in amusements. Let Lord Carmichael make the experiment of keeping officials out of the public celebrations of His Imperial Majesty's birthday and

see whether the people fail to show loyalty and gratitude to their sovereign in a fitting way.

87. The *Paricharak* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that in all the long history of India, there is not a single instance on record of the people of India ever having risen in rebellion against the ruler for the time being.

The traditional loyalty of the Indian people.

and this in spite of the fact that all her sovereigns have not been exactly ideal ones of the type of Ram Chandra, and all her conquerors have not been just like the British. In fact many of India's kings have been tyrants and oppressors. It is false to attribute this to the innate cowardice of the people of India. It is because loyalty to the ruler is inculcated upon Hindus as a sacred duty by their religion.

88. The *Prajabandhu* [Brahmanberia] of the 5th May has the following in English:—

Co-operation with the Government.

The Government of the country cannot be carried on successfully without the active co-operation of the people. Bengal is by far the most advanced country in India. But have the Bengalis awakened to a sense of their responsibility in this respect? Certainly not, otherwise the chances of the aggravated forms of political crimes such as murders and robberies would have been reduced to a minimum.

89. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina] of the 11th May takes the *Bengalee* newspaper severely to task for accusing, in the course of an article headed "Rajshahi election," the Government of Lord Carmichael of exercising a party spirit in the matter of the election of members of the Bengal Legislative Council, in which Mr. J. Choudhuri, a son-in-law of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, failed to get returned. In the same article, an effort has also been made to create ill-feeling between the Government and the people, as if the two were necessarily divided into two antagonistic parties with divergent interests.

The Rajshahi election and the Bengalee.

90. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 15th May is opposed to the "registration of servants."

"Registration of servants."

91. In discussing the servant problem now exercising the mind of the *Englishman* and the European community of Calcutta, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th May writes that registration is no panacea for the ills complained of; it will not remove the root-cause of the present difficulty, which is that the supply of servants falls far short of the demand. New industries are being started in the country, affording new avenues of employment with better wages, and dispensing with the necessity of being kicked and cuffed by European masters.

92. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 15th May, is exercised over the difficulties of the Indentured coolies in Fiji, and quotes from Burton's "Fiji of to-day" which gives a picture of the life of slavery which the coolies have to lead.

Indentured coolies in the Fiji Islands.

93. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May calls the Bill to indemnify Sir Stuart Samuel, M.P., for having illegally accepted while a member of Parliament a contract from Government, a most shameful step for the Liberal Government to take, similar, to the Universities Validating Act which was passed by Lord Curzon.

The Bill to indemnify Sir S. Samuel.

94. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 16th May doubts whether the Indian Government was really actuated by generous motives in stopping the export of opium to China.

The opium trade.

The fact that it took action only when China herself showed a firm resolution to give up using the drug, shows its prudential rather than generous nature. Anyway, it is interesting in connection with this trade to recall Sir William Butler's remarks, "Justice counts for little where human interests are deeply concerned".

PARICHARAK,
May 17th, 1913.

PRAJABANDHU,
May 5th, 1913.

RANGPUR
DIKPRAKASH,
May 11th, 1913.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 15th, 1913.

MUHAMMADI,
May 6th, 1913.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
May 15th, 1913.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

BASUMATI,
May 16th, 1913.

HITAVADI,
May 16th, 1913.

95. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th May refers to Mr. B. L. Gupta's appointment as Dewan of Baroda as a mark of appreciation of a veteran Bengali, who, while in the Civil Service, did not attain to the highest distinction because of the crime of colour.

BASUMATI,
May 17th, 1913.

96. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 17th May refers to the recent statement in public by Sir K. G. Gupta that Colonial self-Government would not suit India, and remarks as follows:—

There is nothing surprising if Lord Morley is led by his ignorance of Indian conditions into believing that India will for ever remain under an autocratic form of Government. Such strange conceptions may be pardoned in him, but it is inexplicable why an Indian like Sir Krishna Govinda having passed his long life in India, should suddenly break forth into opinions like this.

BANGAVASI,
May 17th, 1913.

97. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 17th May takes the *Englishman* newspaper to task for suspecting the loyalty of the Sepoys in the Indian army, and warns it never to wound the feeling of the sepoy, whose loyalty is unassailable and who are the pillars of British rule in India. The Sepoy Mutiny occurred at a time when the sepoy knew not their sovereign, and even then it was with the help of Sikh, Gurkha, Mahratta, and other Indian troops that the East India Company quelled the rebellion and regained its dominion.

BIDHUBHUSHAN MUKHERJEE,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 24th May 1913.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 24th May 1913.

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CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT ()

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH A

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.**

[As it stood on 1st March 1913.]

| No. | Name of Publication. | Where published. | Edition. | Name, caste and age of Editor. | Circulation. |
|-----|------------------------|------------------|-----------|--|----------------|
| 1 | "Amrita Bazar Patrika" | Calcutta | Daily | Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin | 1,400 |
| 2 | "Bengalee" ... | Ditto | Do. | Surendra Nath Banarji and Kali Nath Ray. | 4,500 |
| 3 | "Hindoo Patriot" | Ditto | Do. | Sarat Ch. Ray, Kayastha, age 45, years | 1,000 |
| 4 | "Indian Empire" | Ditto | Weekly | Shashi Bhushan Mukharji. age 55 years, Hindu, Brahmin. | 2,000 |
| 5 | "Indian Mirror" | Ditto | Daily | Satyendra Nath Sen | 1,300 |
| 6 | "Indian Nation" | Ditto | Weekly | Sailendra Ghosh, Kayastha, age 39 years | 800 |
| 7 | "Indian World" | Ditto | Do. | Prithvis Ch. Ray | 500 to 1,000 |
| 8 | "Muscalman" | Ditto | Do. | A. Rasul and M. Rahman | 1,000 to 1,500 |
| 9 | "Reis and Rayyet" | Ditto | Do. | Jogesh Chandra Datta, age 62 years | 350 |
| 10 | "Telegraph" | Ditto | Do. | Satyendra Kumar Basu | 1,300 |
| 11 | "Herald" | Dacca | Do. | Priya Nath Sen | 2,000 |
| 12 | "East" | Do. | Bi-weekly | Banga Ch. Ray | 300 |

LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH AND
AT THE RENOVATION

1884

| No. | Name of Publication | When published | Author |
|-----|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | "Amelia's House" | 1884 | Amelia's House |
| 2 | "Hesperia" | 1884 | Hesperia |
| 3 | "Hesperia" | 1884 | Hesperia |
| 4 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 5 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 6 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 7 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 8 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 9 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 10 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 11 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |
| 12 | "Indian History" | 1884 | Indian History |

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

585. The atmosphere, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, is again surcharged with militant electricity. This time it is not merely the Balkan area but the Great Powers of America and Japan that are curving up their backs.

America and Japan on the verge of war.

The *casus belli* seems to be the legislation of the Californian State prohibiting ownership of lands by Japanese immigrants. The keenest protests by Japan as well as the intervention on her behalf by President Wilson and Mr. Bryan have proved abortive, and the latter are now said to have declared their powerlessness to help Japan, inasmuch as under the United States constitution the Federal Government cannot veto the action of a State of the union in such a case, even though the question at issue may involve treaty obligations with foreign Powers. Japan, which, like other oriental Powers, is not accustomed to take things lying down, has felt the insult keenly and is said to be contemplating an ultimatum. What the consequences of such war, if it eventually comes about, will be, the world shudders to contemplate. The journal yet hopes such a disaster will be averted.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th May 1913.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

586. So the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is going to witness once more the spectacle of a conspiracy case under section 121A, the trial beginning at Barisal from 25 May. The news has come as a bolt from the blue upon the unsuspecting public, who were least prepared for it, and it is needless to say, it will produce the most tremendous sensation not only in Bengal but all over the country. The trial will remind the people of those dark days, which they had well nigh forgotten as a painful dream under the *régime* of their present ruler and which, in the interest of both the ruled and the rulers, should be buried in oblivion. Of course, the people are quite in the dark as to the evidence the police have got in their possession to start the trial, and neither do they at present trouble themselves about it. All that they hope is, that the present accused will be spared this time the disadvantages the accused were subjected to in similar cases before. The public are anxious to be informed on one point, viz., whether the accused in the present case will be tried in open court or *in camera*.

The Barisal conspiracy case.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
17th May 1913.

587. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* does not know on what basis they are going to have another conspiracy case which will not only throw East Bengal into a most undesired state of agitation but disturb the present tranquil atmosphere of the country in general. There was a time when the higher authorities did not lightly allow any police suggestions or the suggestions of the local authorities to prevail in order to inaugurate any State prosecution for any alleged political offence. In fact no such prosecution in former times could be set on foot without the sanction of the Governor-General in Council and without the opinion of the Advocate-General. But now it seems there is hardly any check to the natural tendency of the police to show activity, vigour and zeal on a grand scale and thus demonstrate that they are big enough for any would-be big things. The Conspiracy Act has created offences which surely it was not the intention of the Government to make serious use of, on every and all occasions, without any consideration of the general panic, disquietude and feeling of insecurity which may be caused thereby.

Ibid.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st May 1913.

588. It is impossible to describe in words, remarks the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the depth of the panic and alarm which has overtaken Bengal, specially East Bengal, owing to the renewed and vigorous activity of the police in making house-searches and arrests. The people have begun to feel that they are passing through the same troublous times that they did two years before, when the authorities saw spectres of sedition in every bush, and house-searches became

Ibid.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th May 1913.

the order of the day. It is the easiest thing in the world for one standing on the terrace of a house, to advise passers-by not to be afraid of a wild animal at large, just as the Anglo-Indian papers are declaring with all the emphasis they possess that the innocent have nothing to fear. But surely that can hardly console the people with their past and present experiences. Hundreds of houses have been searched needlessly, creating unnecessary unrest in the country, which a little judgment and tact on the part of the authorities might have avoided. Let the guilty be arrested and punished by all means; but surely no innocent man should be punished along with them. It is unfortunate that the Head of the Government should be now at Darjeeling instead of being in Dacca. Heaven knows what terrible fate is in store for the people. That being so, the police should never be given a blank cheque to do what they think proper to collect materials for starting a conspiracy case. On the contrary, the interests of both the ruled and the rulers demand that all possible care should be taken that all the acts of the police in this connection should be scrutinized by the Government itself before they are given effect to, and the more so because their consequences so vitally affect the people.

BENGALUR,
21st May 1913.

589. The *Bengalee* appeals to the Government with all the earnestness that its command to drop the Barisal conspiracy case. It is perhaps too early to expect a response to this appeal. But in the meantime the arrests are going on, here, there and everywhere, and arrangements are made at Barisal itself for the great State trial that is about to take place and which in the case of a small town like Barisal is bound to produce a disastrous moral effect. Further, the journal learns that a detachment of Gurkha military police about two hundred strong, led by their European Captains, patrolled the Dacca streets on Friday morning in accompaniment of bands. The men were fully armed and marched four abreast. What could be the meaning of this military display, which is bound to create a bad effect on the mind of the peaceful section of the community; and they form the vast majority? Is it in any way connected with the conspiracy case or the impression which is sought to be created by it? But there is an aspect of the matter which is not to be overlooked. It will be interpreted as an indication of the distrust of the people; and distrust begets distrust.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
22nd May 1913.

590. Three weeks ago the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* first heard of the alleged Barisal conspiracy case from a very high official. *Ibid.* This informant himself was not quite sure of the correctness of his information which was based on rumour, though it seemed to him to be a well founded one. He enquired from the journal if it knew anything about the matter, but the paper pleaded ignorance. He was, however, told that such a thing could not happen, so long as Bengal was under the control of a Governor like Lord Carmichael; for, His Excellency would never allow the peace of the province to be disturbed, which he has established by his tact, judgment and ardent sympathy. Fancy the sensational and terror-striking character of the present movements of the Criminal Intelligence Department. A number of the alleged accused were not hiding themselves like criminals but moving in society as honest people. One of them is a Head Master of a high school, who was proceeding home to enjoy his summer holidays and was arrested in a railway train. Another, a school Parit, was arrested while attending on his sick relations. A boy reading in the second class of the Sitakund School is also under police custody; and so is another boy who is a student of the Campbell Medical School living in Serpentine Lane, Calcutta. And so on. If these men and boys were really members of a dangerous conspiracy, it is reasonable to suppose that the fact would have oozed out and the school authorities or committees would have never permitted them to hold responsible posts or read in any aided or Government schools. And why were they arrested clandestinely and put in *hajat*, without their or their friends knowing anything of the nature of the evidence the police has got against them? Such a procedure is bound to unsettle the public mind. Mark then the sense of proportion and propriety of the C. I. D. officials. The accused, consisting of a few unarmed Bengalis, all under police custody, were each of them surrounded by a separate batch of armed Gurkhas! Was not this military demonstration perfectly unnecessary and quite ridiculous? The

journal also learns that some of the accused were brought from Chittagong and Noakhali, etc., to Barisal handcuffed and tied with a rope from behind. Why this needless cruelty? Are the suffragist conspirators being treated in this fashion in England? The only object it served was to strike terror among the people, which certainly is not calculated to evoke their affection for the Administration. Fancy also the accused, including a school-boy reading in the second class, charged with waging war against the King! Did they conspire to attack Fort William with Maxim guns and Gatlings? Ponder, again, on the wide-spread nature of the alleged conspiracy. It extends from Chittagong to Calcutta. Houses in various parts of Bakarganj, Dacca, Chittagong, Noakhali, and Calcutta have been searched, and the journal has no doubt other districts will in due course come in for their share of trouble. And one wonders if a large number of people,—if not the whole nation,—will gradually be sought to be implicated in the conspiracy, and the whole country turned upside down! What is most incomprehensible is why should the accused *bhadralok* dakaitis be dealt with in a different manner from the professional dakait? A dakaiti is a dakaiti, whether he belongs to a respectable or a criminal class. The country is not sought to be convulsed by the display of military force or house-searches, when ordinary dakaitis are hauled up by the police; nor are they tried by a Special Magistrate. Why could not this procedure be also adopted in regard to *bhadraloks*, when they are charged with dakaiti or any other serious crime? And is it not unfair and unjust that an accused should be treated as a criminal of the worst type before he is put on his trial and convicted? Why should the defendants in the present case, at least such of them against whom there is no positive evidence, be handcuffed, or refused bail, and made to rot in jail before they have been found guilty? The journal appeals to Lord Carmichael to go through the police papers himself and study the matter with that serious and undivided attention which it deserves. Indeed, he has a grave responsibility in this connection. If His Excellency is convinced that a *prima facie* case has been made out, the accused must stand their trial. But, in that case, every facility should be given to them to defend themselves. The odds are heavily against them. The prosecution will be backed by the unlimited resources of the Government; but the poor wretches in the position of the defendants are not only without friends or funds, but their personal liberty has been taken away from them. The fight is thus most unequal, and the Government should give them every reasonable opportunity to clear their characters if they are innocent. If the paper is correctly informed, in England the State provides legal help for undefended accused in important cases. Why should not the Indian Government also follow the same generous policy by which it would raise itself in the estimation of the public? The journal trusts there is no truth in the rumour that the accused will be tried by a Special Magistrate at Barisal. The prosecution will then have everything in its own way, and the defendants will be placed at a cruel disadvantage. The case should come before the Special Tribunal of the High Court, an institution which was created solely for the trial of this kind of cases; and, by making this arrangement, the Government will only do a bare act of justice to the accused. It should not also be forgotten that, if they are tried and convicted by a District Magistrate, his decision will not command that popular respect and confidence as that of three learned Judges of the High Court constituting the Special Tribunal. Lastly, the paper begs to remind His Excellency the Governor of the noble policy followed by Lord Hardinge in connection with the Khulna dakaiti case. When the Viceroy proposed that the accused in that case should be set free under certain conditions, Sir Edward Baker and his advisers vehemently opposed the idea. They represented that if the accused were not adequately punished, that is to say, not transported or sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, they would again commit dakaities or adopt anarchist methods and make it impossible for the police to keep the peace. Lord Hardinge overruled them and compelled Sir Edward's Government to withdraw the prosecution. And what was the result? The so-called dakaitis involved in that case are now honest and useful members of society. The journal trusts if the accused in the present case are found guilty, they will also be treated as first offenders and given an opportunity to show that if they had committed an offence under

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circumstances over which they had no control, they were yet not so depraved as not to be able to lead an honest life again.

591. The letter of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Barisal correspondent, received on the 22nd May, shows that the recent activities of the police there have simply taken away the breath of the people of the district, and they are in despair. They feel as if nobody, however law-abiding he may be, is safe from the attention of the police, and any house may be searched or any arrest made the next moment. The journal makes the following extract from it:—

"The people of Barisal were first startled by the house-searches of February 27th last and their hearts were filled with alarm. We heard that these searches were made in connection with the dakaiti at Nagalband. The young men arrested were put in *hajat*, and days rolled into weeks and weeks into months—still they were not placed before the court. The procedure gave rise to the popular suspicion that there was no evidence against them till now, or else why should they rot in *hajat*? Before this some boys arrested in connection with the dakaiti at Pratapkati were released after they had rotted in *hajat* several months. It was hoped that similar steps might be taken in connection with the youths arrested on February 27.

"All on a sudden, the houses of the juvenile accused were searched again, and the fact oozed out that they would be charged under section 121A of the I. P. C.

"The condition of the guardians of the youths arrested is most heart-rending. In the eyes of the law, an accused is innocent so long as he is not convicted, and because the youths have been arrested, that is no proof that they are guilty. But most of the guardians of those arrested are labouring under a most serious difficulty. They are too poor to defend their wards. So, as you have rightly suggested, the trial by the Special Bench of the High Court will be a real boon. At Dacca they could bring O. R. Das, Esq., but Barisal can ill afford to do it. I mean the guardians concerned are unable to pay for legal aid."

The above needs no comment.

BENGALUR,
23rd May 1913.

592. The *Bengalee* reproduces the following from the *Jasohar* of Jessore:—

The conspiracy of East Bengal to be followed by a similar trial in West Bengal.

"A panic has seized the inhabitants of the villages within the jurisdiction of the Kotwali thana of Jessore, as the names of all the strong-built young men residing in these localities are reported to have been sent up to the police by the rural chaukidars and daffadars. The causes of these police proceedings are yet unknown. We hope the authorities will remove the cause of this public anxiety." Are young men to be suspected because they happen to be physically strong? Is feebleness of body to be a security against the attentions of the police? The journal hopes the chaukidars have exceeded their instructions. However that may be, there are all sorts of rumours about the inauguration of conspiracy trials. The paper has heard it said that the conspiracy trial in East Bengal is to be followed by a similar trial in West Bengal, and the report circulated by the local paper of Jessore lends colour to this report. The conspiracy trial in East Bengal, the journal regards as a grave blunder, and if it is to be supplemented by a conspiracy trial in West Bengal, the blunder will be aggravated. From all sides reports are being received of police spies being abroad and of a revival of the system of espionage which the paper had hoped had terminated once for all with the modification of the partition. The journal prays to be relieved of the excitement and unrest which the new activities of the police are causing in all directions. The paper appeals to the Government for peace, and trusts that it does not appeal in vain. Lord Carmichael in his recent speech at Midnapore invited the public to forget the unpleasant memories of the Midnapore conspiracy case. The public cordially responded to the invitation, but the journal is afraid that it is the authorities who will not permit one to forget these disagreeable associations. Mr. Weston in the evidence that he gave before the High Court said that one of the methods which he followed was to arrest suspected persons, keep them in *hajat*, and then collect evidence against them. This is now being done in East Bengal. House-searches are being made, suspects are arrested and kept in *hajat*, and then the papers are examined to prepare the cases against them, and they are kept in confinement all the time the examination goes on and the preliminaries are proceeded with. The paper is compelled to remark that this is reversing the natural and normal order of things and is opposed to the spirit of British law and institutions.

593. Khulna, remarks the *Telegraph*, appears to have become one of those districts which are always before the public on account of local sensations, like Barisal, Mymensingh, Midnapore, and Dacca. In addition to the Arms Act, and the so-called *sudburdustism* of the Magistrate, there are two other sensations which are engrossing public attention. The first of these is the arrest of two young men in a boat in which were concealed firearms and other paraphernalia of dakaities. House-searches have been conducted in this connection and arrests have been made with some tangible grounds for belief. Of course, so long as the matter is not threshed out in a court of law the journal can make no comments. The second one is a case in which a public woman charged certain members of the punitive police with house-trespass, assault, and wrongful confinement. It is this very fact which invests the proceedings with more than ordinary interest.

TELEGRAPH,
17th May 1913.

594. The *Bengalee* feels profoundly thankful to some of the members of Parliament who have taken up in all earnestness the question of police torture and have been persistently pressing for immediate amendments in the criminal law of the country with a view to put an end to this practice. Sir William Byles and Mr. Morsel put Mr. Montagu a series of questions with reference to the Poona torture case where four policemen were convicted and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for torturing three innocent Indian peasants for the purpose of extorting a confession from them. Mr. Montagu regretted that all the facts stated by the Hon'ble Members were substantially true and expressed his anxiety to see that such a condition of things was put an end to. The solitary ray of consolation which Mr. Montagu could hold out was that cases of torture were now on the decrease. Consolation indeed! He said that the Government of India too were equally anxious to put an end to police torture, as might be evident from "the continuous efforts to raise the status of the police and improve the supervising staff, to disallow the judging of police work by statistics of convictions, to make the supervision of lock-up and the examination of prison conditions more rigorous, to insist on extra precaution in recording confession, and to publish all cases in which policemen were convicted of ill-treatment."

BENGALUR,
30th May 1913.

595. The *Bengalee* understands that some sensation has been caused at Serampore by the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Subdivisional Officer living together in the same house. This close association of the Head of the Police and of the Magistrate is calculated to create a feeling of alarm. When the whole country is agitating for the separation of judicial and executive functions, a close association of this kind naturally creates an uneasy feeling in the public mind. The journal presumes that it is only a temporary arrangement.

BENGALUR,
30th May 1913.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

596. The *Bengalee* is surprised to find that the revised rules of the Bombay High Court require that a Barrister before enrolment should read in chambers with a European Barrister. Why a European Barrister? Why not an Indian Barrister? Is even the sanctity of a High Court to be invaded by racial considerations? The journal hopes this rule will be promptly withdrawn. The Indian Barristers of the Bombay High Court owe it to themselves to record a vigorous protest against it. The paper finds that this matter was broached at the Students' Conference recently held in London under the presidency of Sir William Wedderburn. The journal is glad to note that Mr. Mallet of the India Office recorded a vigorous protest against it. He thought it wrong, objectionable and unfair, and would readily do what he could to bring that opinion to bear upon the Bombay High Court. The journal quite agrees with Mr. Parekh in the view that when a man had been called to the Bar and was competent to practise in England he should be considered competent to practise in India without additional qualification.

BENGALUR,
18th May 1913.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
30th May 1913.

597. In spite of Lord Morley's recommendations to executive officers of the Government to freely mix with the people in order to obtain first-hand information, and redress their grievances without the intervention of questionable mediums, there are to be found, writes the *Indian Empire*, from time to time some self-sufficient Magistrates who not only keep aloof from the people of the district, but also actually turn them out when any one approaches them for some business. Even the lawyers whose duties call them to wait upon such officers on behalf of their clients, would not be allowed to approach them. Mr. Dunlop, the Magistrate-Collector of the 24-Parganas at Alipore, would not allow any lawyer, be he a pleader or a mukhtear, to enter into the sacred court-room where he sits to perform his public duties. The *chaprasis* are stationed at the door to prevent his admission. If any one would send his card for a visit, he would unceremoniously return the same through his *chaprasis*, with the order that if he had any important papers to submit they should be presented through his Peshkar or *chaprasis* for inspection! Mr. Dunlop hails from Rajshahi district, which is a mufassal station, where an executive officer could play any pranks he pleases with impunity. But the journal really wonders how could Mr. Dunlop venture to play similar high-handedness and strange vagaries in a sadar station like Alipore, lying within three miles of Government House. The paper would advise the lawyers practising in the Court to lay their grievances before the Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
20th May 1913.

598. Referring to a paragraph in the *Englishman*, where it is said on good authority that the new High Court for Bihar will be an accomplished fact by April 1915, and that His Excellency Lord Hardinge will himself perform the opening ceremony at Bankipur, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that doubtless it is a grand idea—the opening of the new High Court by the Viceroy and it holds out another tempting prospect for a gorgeous public function. But have the authorities calculated if the enormous cost of this reduplication of the High Court will be commensurate with the mischief that will result from the curtailment of the Calcutta High Court? The journal is afraid not. Inscrutable, indeed, are the ways of earthly Providence. When the whole country with one voice agitates for the redressal of a particular grievance, the intensity or enormity of which is beyond all cavil or question, there is nothing but lassitude and half-heartedness, hesitancy and vacillation, if not positive opposition, characterising its attitude. Take the typical case of that ever-burning question of the separation of executive from judicial functions. The crying evils of this system have been unequivocally condemned out of its own mouth, and still it is sitting on the fence for the last half a dozen years or so. When, however, it is an interested and short-sighted section of the public that raise a parrot cry for a certain measure, why, it is supremely obliging and generous, as its action in regard to the Bihar High Court goes to show. And no doubt it will take the credit of showing a generous concession to public voice. But has not a much larger body of the public been earnestly demanding for the greater independence of the High Court? And is not the curtailment of the Calcutta High Court a great blow at what independence was still left to that popular tribunal? Can the authors of this curtailment, then, escape the ugly construction of their ill-fated measure that they are crippling the most independent and important judiciary of the country in the teeth of public voice?

BENGALER,
20th May 1913.

599. Referring to the Serampur case, in which a European Mill Superintendent was convicted of committing simple hurt on an Indian operative under section 323 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 100, the *Bengalee* now points out that the police sent up the case under section 325 of the Indian Penal Code as a case of grievous hurt, the charge was drawn up under section 325, and the entire proceedings conducted under section 325. How came it about then that at the last moment the accused was convicted under section 323 and sentenced to pay a fine? It is a matter which needs a little official examination. Will the Government be pleased to direct an enquiry into and an inspection and examination of the records? The public have a right to know all about this somewhat extraordinary proceeding.

(c)—Jails.

600. Reverting to the case of Ullaskar Datta, who was transported to the Andamans in connection with the Alipur bomb case and subsequently became insane, the *Bengalee*

BENGALUR,
17th May 1913.

Ullaskar Datta.

learns that he has been transferred from Port Blair to a lunatic asylum at Kelpauk in Madras. The journal is thankful for the transfer of Ullaskar from Port Blair to a lunatic asylum where better care would be taken of him than was possible in the Andamans. Babu Dwijadas Datta submitted a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy praying that his son might be made over to him subject to such conditions as the Government of India might think fit. The paper cannot help thinking that instead of sending him to a lunatic asylum it would have been far better if Ullaskar Datta could have been made over to the care of his parents. Such an act of mercy would also have been an act of supreme wisdom and would have demonstrated the strength, the justice, and mercy of the British Government. The journal trusts this may yet be done.

(d)—Education.

601. It will be remembered, writes the *Indian Nation*, that at the first meeting of the Legislative Council at Delhi, the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale moved a resolution asking

INDIAN NATION,
14th May 1913.

Primary education.

for the publication of the correspondence between the Government of India and the Secretary of State on the question of primary education. In his speech the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale acknowledged the importance of the Government of India Resolution on Education Policy, and so far as assurances of a liberal treatment are concerned, the policy gives complete satisfaction. But what the country wants is something more tangible than verbal assurances and policies, and if the programme of expansion for the next 5 or 10 years had been published, every one would have been contented. But after the refusal of the Government to publish the programme, Mr. Gokhale expressed his complete disappointment that there was no programme behind the paper resolve of the Government, and the Hon'ble Sir H. Butler went so far in throwing cold water as to hint that funds would not be available in future for any great forward advance in education. The journal hardly sees the utility of the Secretary of State's further assurances. Doubtless the paper admits the great earnestness of the Government to further the cause of education in India, but in view of the intense anxiety of the people that a great deal more than an ordinary rate of progress should be adopted, the absence of real enthusiasm in the Government is disappointing. The reference to the "patriotism and liberty" of the people would seem to throw the blame of slow progress more on the people than on Government agencies, which at present cannot spend even the special grants made for education. The journal confesses, notwithstanding the excellent intentions of Government, it is not impressed with their policy of education, which so far fails to meet the demands of the country.

602. Returning again to this subject, the *Mussalman* remarks that though Government are so very anxious to look after the Madrassas and Maktabas as to sanction the appointment of an Assistant Director for Muhammadan

MUSSALMAN,
16th May 1913.

An Assistant Director for
Muhammadan Education.

education, it seems to be inexplicable as to why full powers of "initiation and control" regarding even these institutions should not at all be vested in him. With the powers of the Divisional Inspector of Schools, he will never be able to effect any appreciable improvement in Madrassa and Maktab education. Indeed, there will be few to envy the unique position of an Assistant Director, who will absolutely possess no power to prescribe the curricula for the institutions specially placed under his charge, and who will, in addition, have very little facility to see that his mandates are carried out. In these circumstances it may be remarked, with an amount of justification, that Government have decided to build from the top. When once the need for a special officer has been recognized for a particular branch of public instruction, the matter should

be worked out to its logical conclusions. But, in the present case, this has not been done. Unless special inspecting officers for Muhammadan education are appointed in *all* the divisions, and other officers, subordinate to them, are appointed, all attempts to effect any improvement in Madrassa and Maktab education will, probably, end in smoke. But will the *entire* problem of Muhammadan education be solved by simply making special arrangements for the Madrassas and Maktab? Is Muhammadan education confined to these institutions? It will readily be conceded that Muhammadan education is not confined to the aforesaid institutions, nor will the problem be solved unless some special arrangement is made with regard to the secondary, and, also collegiate education. In the secondary (high) schools in Bengal the Muhammadan pupils are, generally speaking, at a disadvantage owing to the accommodation fixed by the University Regulations, and the absence of any provision for the teaching of Arabic and Persian. The grant-in-aid rules, in force in Bengal are sadly deficient, inasmuch as they do not at all require the Managers to make provision for the teaching of those languages. So as regards the secondary and general education, the proposed officer will have no *voice*, but, it is said, his "functions will be advisory." He will be allowed to visit institutions of all grades "merely for the purpose of *studying* conditions under which Muhammadan pupils live and work and of *giving advice* as to how these conditions may be improved, and in what manner the Government may best afford assistance."

MUSALMAN,
16th May 1913.

603. Mr. Hornell, the new Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, has come over to India and has taken over charge of his responsible office. The *Musalmán* begs to accord to him a cordial welcome on behalf of its people and

it hopes it does so without any fear of contradiction. Some of the Anglo-Indian journalists are violently opposed to the appointment of Mr. Hornell on account of his not being a member of the Indian Educational Service, and have shed buckets of crocodile tears on the *wrong committed on that service* by the appointment of an outsider. The Indian Educational Service is virtually a service meant exclusively for the Europeans and its door is almost closed against the Indians. The journal is therefore not in the least concerned who is appointed to be the Director of Public Instruction, whether a member of that service or an outsider. All that is wanted is that a capable man is appointed, and the paper hopes Mr. Hornell will prove to be so.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
22nd May 1913.

604. Now that Mr. Hornell, the newly-appointed Director of Public Instruction, has arrived in India, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* presents him with facts of a case which will show how things are going on in the department which is passing into this his hands. The Government of Bengal allotted a sum of nearly Rs. 95,000 for furniture and equipment of primary schools in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions and ordered that the sums allotted to the various districts, except municipal areas, should be transferred to the District Boards concerned. It appears that the Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division, has issued a circular to the Chairmen of District Boards in that division asking them to place their orders for furniture, etc., with the firms specially selected by him. The circular is indeed a very curious document. It not only shows that Mr. Stark has officiously meddled with the Chairmen of District Boards who are undoubtedly capable of taking care of themselves, but has also fettered their discretion in a manner which seems to be a very extraordinary course. For instance, Mr. Stark has asked the District Boards to buy black-boards for primary schools at a cost of Rs. 24-12 each from the School Book Society which, as arranged by Mr. Stark, will import the same from England. This undoubtedly appears most preposterous, for are English-made boards at all suitable articles for primary schools which are generally located in huts in villages? Are not, moreover, thousands of carpenters available in this country who could make these things at one-third of the cost? Mr. Stark's *farmash* (order) further directly contravenes the policy of the Government that articles locally available should not be imported from foreign countries. Another important feature of the circular of Mr. Stark is that orders for the major part of the articles are to be placed with Messrs. Macmillain & Co., as well as the School Book Society, which is now managed

Ibid.

by the former. What induces Mr. Stark to give special preference to these two firms is a mystery to the public just now, no doubt. The journal hopes that Mr. Hornell will carefully go through the circular referred to and rescind it at once to avoid what seems to all a scandal. The Inspector of the Presidency Division has wisely left matters to the discretion of the District Boards concerned, and Mr. Stark would also have done well had he adopted the same course. The paper hopes it is not yet too late to recall the circular, and it is sure Mr. Hornell will not hesitate to take this bold but wise step that the circumstances of the case clearly demand.

605. A series of complaints have been brought to the notice of the *Amrita Basar Patrika* against the methods of the Board for

The methods of the Board for the Sanskrit title examinations.

the Sanskrit title examinations in a letter signed by a large number of examinees. If what has been stated therein is at least substantially true, the Board and its methods are in need of an immediate and thorough overhauling. The journal is told that first of all the selection of examiners is far from satisfactory. Indeed, the names of some have been mentioned in connection with the last examinations who are said to be utterly incompetent to set papers on the subjects with which they were entrusted. Serious allegations have been made against those who were selected to examine papers. These are serious complaints no doubt, but, considering the quarter they emanate from as well as the ring of truth there is in them, the paper cannot possibly think that they are the outcome of malice or distorted by exaggeration. During the last examinations, it is pointed out, the questions on Kavya and Smriti leaked out. The authorities dismissed the officer who was a party to this affair and arranged a new set of questions on Kavya, but nothing was done in respect of Smriti, the result being that some unworthy students won the laurels, while really worthy ones went away chewing the cud of bitter and unmerited disappointment. On the whole, it appears that the Board of Sanskrit examinations in which about a thousand students from different parts of the country appear yearly are not as strict as is desirable, especially when the matter is of such vital importance to the students. During the last Convocation in which Lord Carmichael presided and the successful examinees were given their diplomas mismanagement was in evidence from the beginning to the end,—A getting the diploma of B, and so on. The matter is thus too serious to be overlooked, but the journal has every faith that it has only to be brought to the notice of the authorities concerned to be promptly remedied. The paper draws the pointed attention of Sir Ashutosh and Mohamahopadhyaya Dr. Satish Chandra Bidyabhusan to the above.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
19th May 1913.

(h)—General.

606. The true welfare of Bengal depends, writes the *East*, upon the establishment of a right relation between the East and

The welfare of Bengal.

West Bengal people on the one hand, and the equal interest of the Government in both the Eastern and Western parts of the country on the other. It is an open secret that East Bengal, though a major part of the Province in point of area and more important in respect of the number of landholders (zamindars and talukdars) and industrial and cultivating classes inhabiting it than West Bengal, had been almost a negligent quantity in the administration of the Province before the formation of the now-defunct Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. There is no denying the fact that West Bengal is by far more intellectually advanced than East Bengal and that is the reason why the journal has all along welcomed the proposal of the establishment of the Dacca Teaching and Residential University. But if East Bengal does not receive equal, if not greater, attention of the Local Government in administrative point of view, she shall not fare better than she had done before the partition.

EAST,
12th May 1913.

607. Kurseong is a subdivision of Darjeeling, and it is in charge of a Civilian Magistrate. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* understands that the Government of Bengal contemplates removing it to Tista, which is very close to Kalimpong. Why this step is going to be taken is not known to the public.

Kurseong as a subdivision of Tista.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
21st May 1913.

As usual, neither the people of Kurseong nor those of Darjeeling, who are vitally interested in this movement, have been consulted on the subject. There is, however, no doubt that the proposed administrative change will not conduce to the well-being of either of them. Kurseong is a growing town, and, therefore, badly needs the services of a competent officer to look after its affairs. Darjeeling, again, is more than over-crowded, and has no space for accommodating further population. Kurseong has, however, enough of land lying unoccupied, which may be utilised by those who want to build houses in a healthy hill-station. But people may not like to live at a place where police rule, in the absence of a responsible officer, is bound to prevail. The question which, however, affects the general public is the cost of building a new subdivisional station at an out-of-the-way place like Tista. This waste of public money is all the more surprising as the Government always pleads want of funds when real reforms are to be effected. The inhabitants of Kurseong are likely to start a movement for entering a protest against the Government proposal.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
22nd May 1913.

608. It is well-known, observes the *Amrita Basar Patrika*, that under the guidance of Dr. P. C. Ray at the chemical laboratory of the Presidency College, a brilliant band of

young men are coming to the fore as original investigators of a high order. Their contributions are being published month by month in the English and German chemical periodicals. They are bidding fair to earn for themselves a European reputation. Yet, these rising chemists have very little chance, under the present policy of rigid exclusion, of getting suitable appointments in the land of their birth, while raw English youths who have got no original work to their credit, are appointed to the Imperial branch of the service.

BENGALER,
23rd May 1913.

609. The *Indian Medical Gazette* is practically the official journal of the Indian Medical Service. Its policy, writes the *Bengaler*, is controlled by members of that service.

It makes an interesting revelation. It says that a large portion of the Indian members of the Indian Medical Service retire comparatively early, many of them after seventeen and twenty years' service. Only ten have put in their full period of thirty years' service. A further fact, as curious as it is interesting, is that only one of this ten "had the opportunity of promotion in his turn" and was "definitely passed over for promotion." The journal asks: why is it that the Indian members of the Indian Medical Service retire early? For the simple reason that they are not properly treated, that justice is not done to them, and that they are passed over in promotion through no fault of their own. The paper is compelled to draw the inference that racial considerations block the advancement of the Indian members of the service. Formerly the senior Indian member of the Indian Medical Service used to be appointed a Professor in the Calcutta Medical College. Dr. Rajendra Chunder Chunder was the last Indian Professor. Dr. R. L. Datta was appointed Professor for a short time, but he was not confirmed, and the fact remains that he was as distinguished as any of his predecessors in the professorial chair. The appointment of Dr. Banatvala as Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in the Central Provinces may indicate a departure from this reactionary policy. The journal can only hope that it does.

HERALD,
21st May 1913

III.—LEGISLATION.

610. So it has been decided, writes the *Herald*, that the Council will sit at Calcutta in the autumn and not at Darjeeling as some people wished. This, of course, disappoints those who would keep their heads cool and their hearts warm in country's cause by a flight to the hills; but, at the same time, it brings none relief. For the more important thing clearly is: Are we going to have a Dacca session? And if not, why not? Are not the pledged words of His Excellency the Governor, to the people of Dacca, to treat this city as a real second capital worth anything? The journal refuses to believe, as some Anglo-Indian contemporaries state, that the promise to treat Dacca as a real second capital in every sense was, in fact, nonsense. For, they argued, it could not be.

The paper has written quite enough to show that Dacca's claim for all the advantages of a secondary capital cannot be lightly disposed of. It would be doing violence to the Moslem feeling in this part and it would mean leaving East Bengal again in the cold shade of neglect. A session of the Council at Dacca is specially needed to stimulate public life in Eastern Bengal. In view of the fact that some of the functions of public bodies have been taken up by the reformed Council a session at Dacca would appear to be essentially necessary. The journal therefore thinks that while the decision to hold the autumn session at Calcutta settles the present controversy, it leads the journal to a further fight to wrench away a session or two from Calcutta. And it is a fight in which it means to win.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

611. An interesting conference was held in London of Indian students,

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19th May 1913.

The Students' Conference in London.

at which Mr. Mallet, of the India Office, explained the position of the educational bureau for Indian students. Mr. Mallet's was a plain straightforward utterance which the *Bengalee* hopes will clear the atmosphere. That Indian students need some guidance and even control while in England, no one will dispute. But it must be control to which they will willingly submit and in which they must largely participate. It must be a sort of self-government in which those who share must voluntarily deprive themselves of some degree of independent action in certain matters for their own benefit. Above all there must be no suspicion in the mind of the Indian students that there is at the bottom an underlying desire on the part of the India Office to influence their political view. An assurance in this direction was necessary, an assurance to be realized in practice. The journal is glad to find that such an assurance was given by Mr. Mallet at the Conference. He said:—The idea that the bureau existed for political espionage was an entire delusion; it existed to be of real use to Indian students. "I assume that you are all honourable, reasonable and fair-minded men; and if that is so I have no more right to enquire into your private opinions than you have to enquire into mine. The root of the whole matter is this: we have got to trust and understand each other better. If we always distrust each other and are ready to suspect each other of the worst possible motives, we shall not get on." The paper finds that the Indian students present loudly cheered this sentiment, as it deserved to be. Mr. Mallet has begun well. He is falsifying the anticipations of Sir John Rees. If Mr. Mallet succeeds in establishing a feeling of mutual trust and confidence between the Bureau and the Indian students, he will be successful in the difficult work that lies before him.

612. Referring again to the conference recently held in London between

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I. id.

Mr. Mallet of the India Office and the Indian students residing in England, the *Bengalee* thinks that Mr. Mallet's speech was admirable in tone and temper. It was a frank and out-spoken statement of the situation; and the paper has no doubt that it produced a good effect upon the students who crowded to listen to him. He disclaimed for his Bureau all political motives. He said he had no desire to influence the views of the students. Education, and not politics, was his object; and he appealed to the students to trust him as he would trust them. The speech was loudly cheered, as it deserved to be. It remains to be seen how far the good intentions of Mr. Mallet are realized in practice. But good intentions and sincerity of purpose go a great way in dealing with students. Nothing appeals with greater force to young minds than the conviction that their teacher or adviser is honest and sincere and is animated by the sole and whole-hearted desire of doing good to them. That young students in England need some sort of advice and guidance, no one will dispute, and if some arrangement, satisfactory to the students and which inspires their confidence, could be made, it would be regarded as a great public boon. The journal awaits with interest and expectancy the results of the conference. In the meantime, there were one or two striking revelations made in the course of the discussion. Dr. J. N. Mehta dealt with the grievances of Indian medical students, and

complained that it was being made more and more difficult for them to secure admission into the hospitals. How many had Mr. Mallet helped into Bartholomew's or St. Thomas's Hospital? As matters now stood, University College Hospital was the only one which gave them a chance, and the number there was strictly limited. It was alleged that the patients objected to treatment by coloured students. This was not the case. It was from the English students that the objection came. Surely this is a grievance which the India Office Bureau ought to be able to remove. It would not be difficult to redress it, if the authorities of the hospitals interested themselves in the matter.

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9, ELYSIUM Row,
CALCUTTA,
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